ABSTRACT

Data arriving from a plurality of channels
asynchronously to each other are respectively stored in
5   separate FIFOs (10). A controller (12) monitors the
status of the FIFOs (10), retrieves the stored data in a
predetermined order, and multiplexes the data, together
with timing data indicating the presence or absence of
the data, into a serial signal having a frame structure
10   in which time slots are fixedly assigned to the
respective channels. On the serial data, the same value
appears successively as data, and when the data is valid,
the corresponding timing data changes from a 0 to a 1.
When the data is invalid, the value of the corresponding
15   timing data does not change.